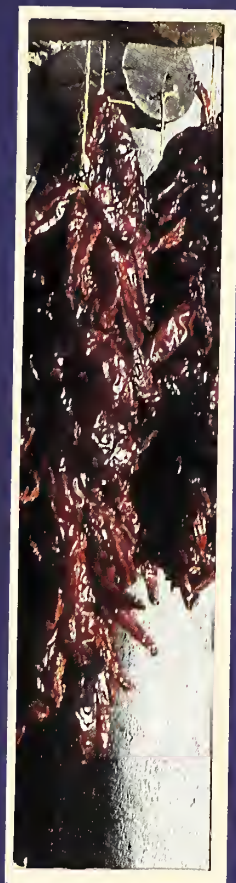


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The Enchantment



United States
Department of
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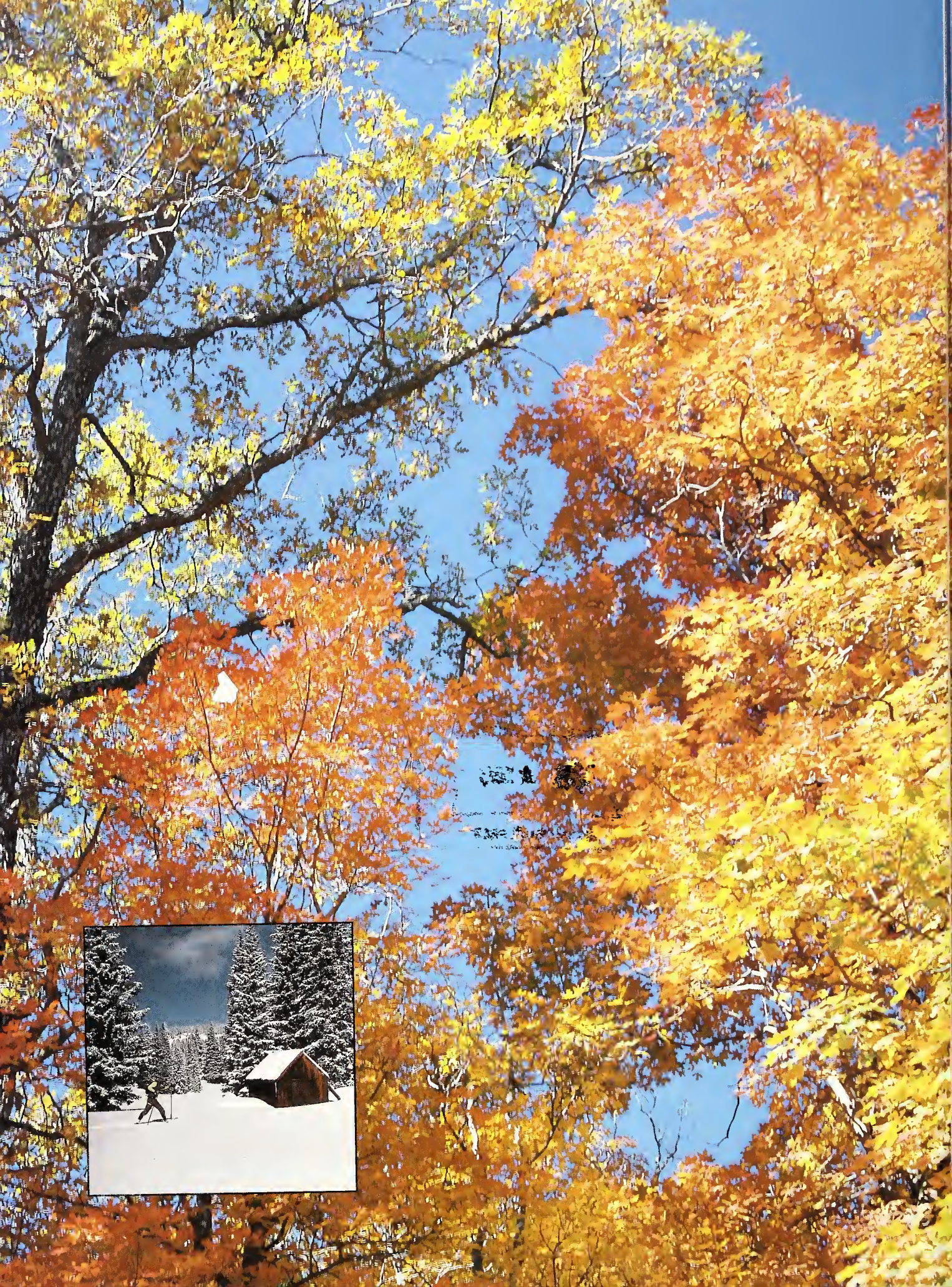
We share an
enchanted
landscape—New
Mexico. Our Forest
Service National
Recreation Strategy
promotes new and
exciting outdoor
recreation
opportunities.
Won't you join us
in strengthening
New Mexico by
sharing our vision
and building new
partnerships in
recreation?





New Mexico



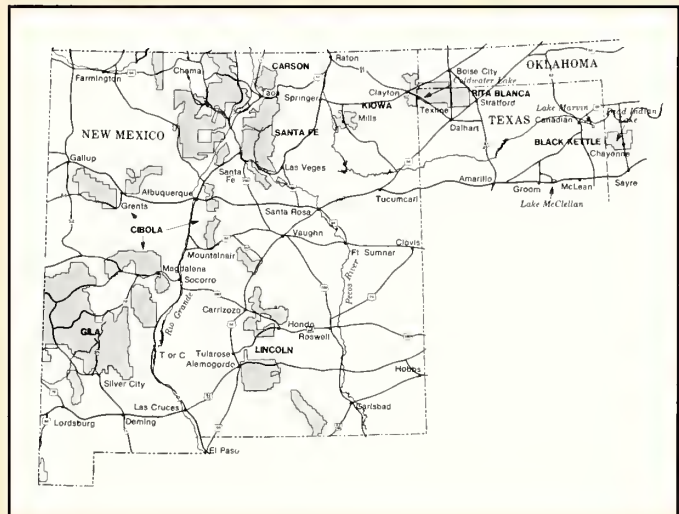
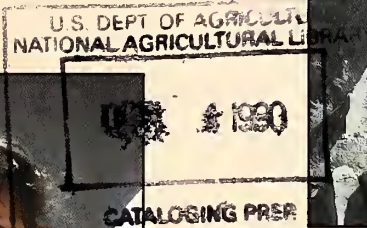
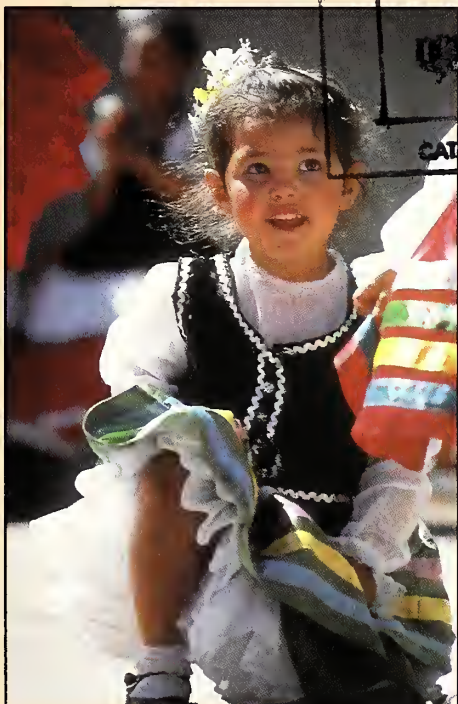
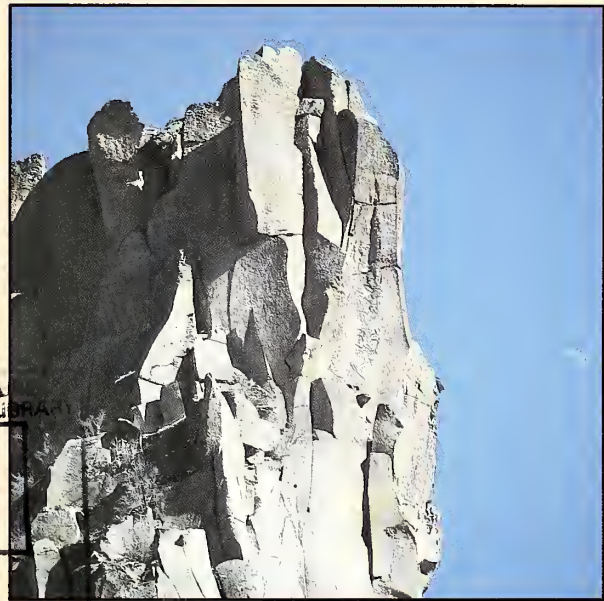




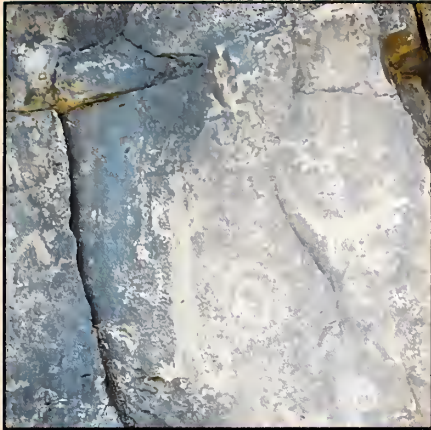
America wants the look of New Mexico. Clothing styles, design motifs, architectural style, crafts and fine art objects have found their way into many American homes and businesses. But if you've not walked over crunching fresh snow under black starlit New Mexico skies; if you've not savored the smell of piñon pine smoke in the crisp desert air nor tasted a pot of simmering green chile stew, you've missed the real New Mexico.

Its Essence

Sparkling fiestas, traditional pueblo ceremonials and skiing fresh powder snow in the crisp mountain air under turquoise skies are the enchantment! New Mexico is a state rich in cultural, geological, and biological diversity. In fact, diversity is the key to the enchantment—the zip in the chile!







Its Land

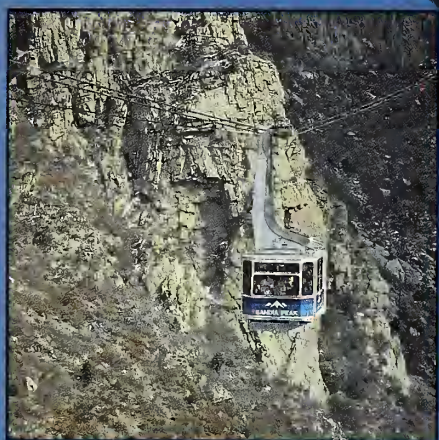
System lands. National Forests and Grasslands mean “recreation” to millions of visitors each year; it is here that fun and discovery happen in an endless variety of ways.

Enchanting! Spectacular! Those words are oft’ repeated when someone is asked to describe New Mexico. Spectacular may even understate alpine peaks reaching to clear blue skies, colorful mesas rising abruptly from the high desert, dramatic canyons whose towering walls echo sounds whispered far below, wild whitewater rivers tumbling through red rock canyons, clear mountain streams sparkling in the noon-day sun, and cool green forests inviting people, birds, and beasts to rest and play.

And, in addition to its enchanting and diverse landscapes, New Mexico’s unique heritage is clearly visible in its wealth of prehistoric and historic sites and in the lives of many of its residents who still celebrate the ways of centuries past. In this spectacular, enchanting land, the National Forests and Grasslands are woven together with the people and history to become a part of the enchantment.

The five national forests in New Mexico and the three national grasslands which tumble over into Texas and Oklahoma are as varied as they are enchanting. As we approach the next millennia, it becomes more apparent that insuring diversity is the major challenge for these National Forest







New Mexico is growing! In the next twenty years, the state's population is expected to climb to over two million people! One-third of those new residents will choose metropolitan Albuquerque for their home. Each year New Mexico continues to be one of the ten fastest growing states in the nation.

While people come to the Land of Enchantment to retire, New Mexico also holds a young, mobile population—average age in the state is 25—that is becoming more affluent. The research centers of Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque and the state universities give the Rio Grande corridor from Los Alamos to Las Cruces the potential of becoming a national center of "high tech" research, education, and business.

That same vastness and diversity of land which draws people here to retire or begin a career also draws many out-of-state visitors each year just to experience the land and its people. In fact, tourism is the state's largest industry and continues to grow each year. Each year millions of dollars are spent in New Mexico by people from other states and many foreign countries who find the enchantment and take home with them a taste of New Mexico.

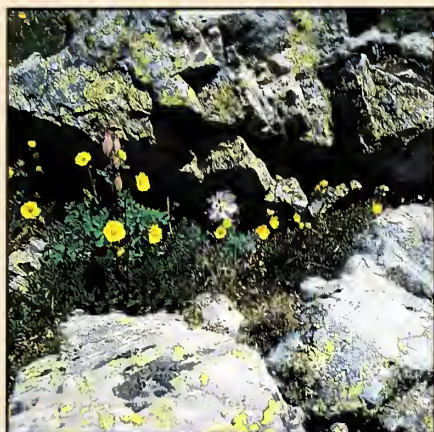
Its People

While many come to shop, sightsee, and break-away from their urban routines, others join with New Mexicans to enjoy a myriad of recreational opportunities. The national forests provide outdoor opportunities for people of all ages and abilities: camping, hiking, cycling, horseback riding, skiing, photographing, painting, wildlife-viewing, snowmobiling, four-wheel driving, hunting, piñon nut gathering, sightseeing, backpacking.... The list could go on and on to describe the fun that waits within national forest boundaries.

Visitors come with many expectations and many abilities. They are young and energetic. They are older and more relaxed. They are families and they are individuals. They are groups and they desire special experiences. They are mobile and they seek universal access. They are many and they seek the land.







As New Mexico grows, so does the need for diverse recreational opportunities. New Mexico's National Forests are preparing for change and developing plans to meet the needs of both those who come to visit and those who come to stay. As National Forest employees in enchanting New Mexico, we are meeting the challenge of recognizing new needs and new opportunities and seeking to provide facilities that will encourage each visitor to experience the fun of discovery in the national forests!

We recognize that we serve a diversity of ethnic groups both among residents and visitors. Not all groups have the same recreational needs. Increasing numbers of senior citizens choose New Mexico to visit and, in many cases, to call home. They account for thirty-five percent of national forest campground use and many have the time and money to continue their travels in the state. Their expectations for campground facilities varies from that of other families and groups that use the same campgrounds.

We serve a diversity of people who see their national forests with different eyes. Some want only the natural world around them. Some want things of the familiar city with them when they venture into nature's realm. To some skateboarding among the trees would be a superb

Its National Forests . . .

experience while others prefer the back of a horse for their transportation along a trail. And still others just want a trail to be accessible to them; their desire is universal access to the great outdoors.

We recognize that the pressures to use National Forest System lands for more and different recreational activities will increase as more people escape urban environments for the fun and relaxation of a visit to the cool quiet of a forest. New facilities will be needed and many existing facilities will have to be refurbished to meet these increasing visitor needs. We must be ready, when possible, to accommodate new recreational devices that will emerge. We have already begun the planning and are ready for action.







And Its Grasslands

for fun and discovery and encourage the public to share in the stewardship of National Forest System lands.

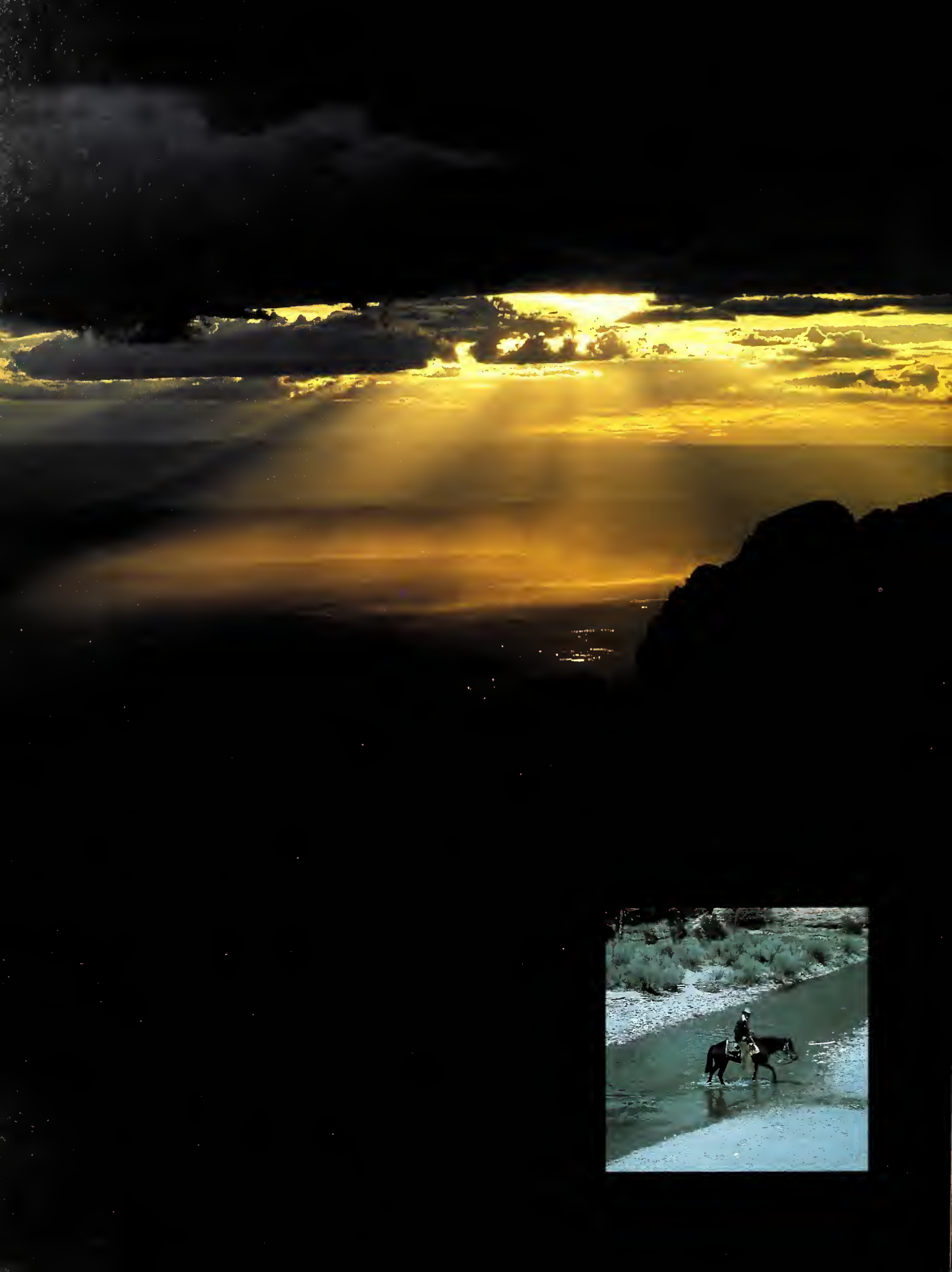
We accept the challenge to maintain recreation campgrounds, picnic areas, trails, visitor centers, and other facilities to a standard that fully meets the needs of those who come to visit and we are giving leadership to the "good host" welcome which will greet national forest visitors. We will provide educational opportunities in our visitor centers and recreational areas that add to the visitor's enjoyment and appreciation of each area they choose to visit within National Forest System lands.

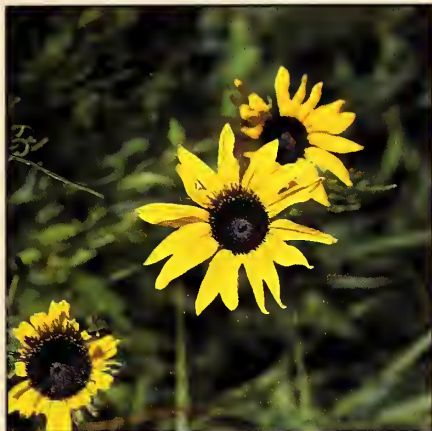
We will have special plans for the protection of fragile ecosystems, such as riparian areas where recreationists compete with wildlife and plants for water, which will involve our visitors in the protection as well as the enjoyment of these unique areas they come to visit.

We will, at all times, remember that the national forests in New Mexico are a vital part of the state's tourism business, and we will work with local communities, groups, and special interests in providing quality recreational opportunities that complement and augment the efforts of the State and others to serve those who come to visit.

Most of all, we will promote the national forests and grasslands as exciting places







We are the recognized leader in providing quality outdoor recreation in New Mexico. The needs of people who come to visit and use the national forests and grasslands are met with services and facilities which recognize and respect the Land of Enchantment's unique character. Information and interpretive services emphasize New Mexico's vast array of cultural and recreational opportunities. Visitors feel welcome by the service they receive from employees who exemplify the good host attitude.

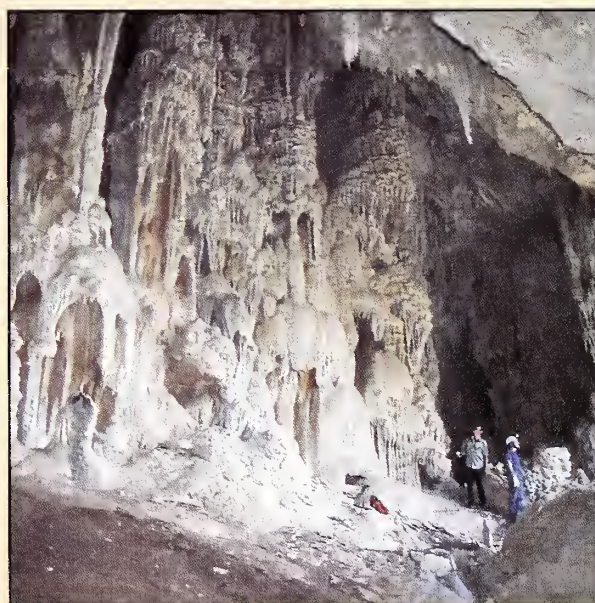
We recognize and accommodate the different needs of our visitors by providing facilities for differing—and sometimes conflicting—recreation uses. We give emphasis to specialized types of recreation, such as water-related activities, trail networks for cross-country skiing, mountain biking, horseback riding, and motorized recreation. Special biological areas and unique resources, such as caves, lakes, and rivers, are managed to recognize and protect their fragile ecosystems. Day-use facilities, including those for group activities, are provided near local communities and urban centers. Recreation sites are clean, safe, well-maintained, and provide universal access. Strong emphasis is placed on securing road and trail access to national forests and grasslands.

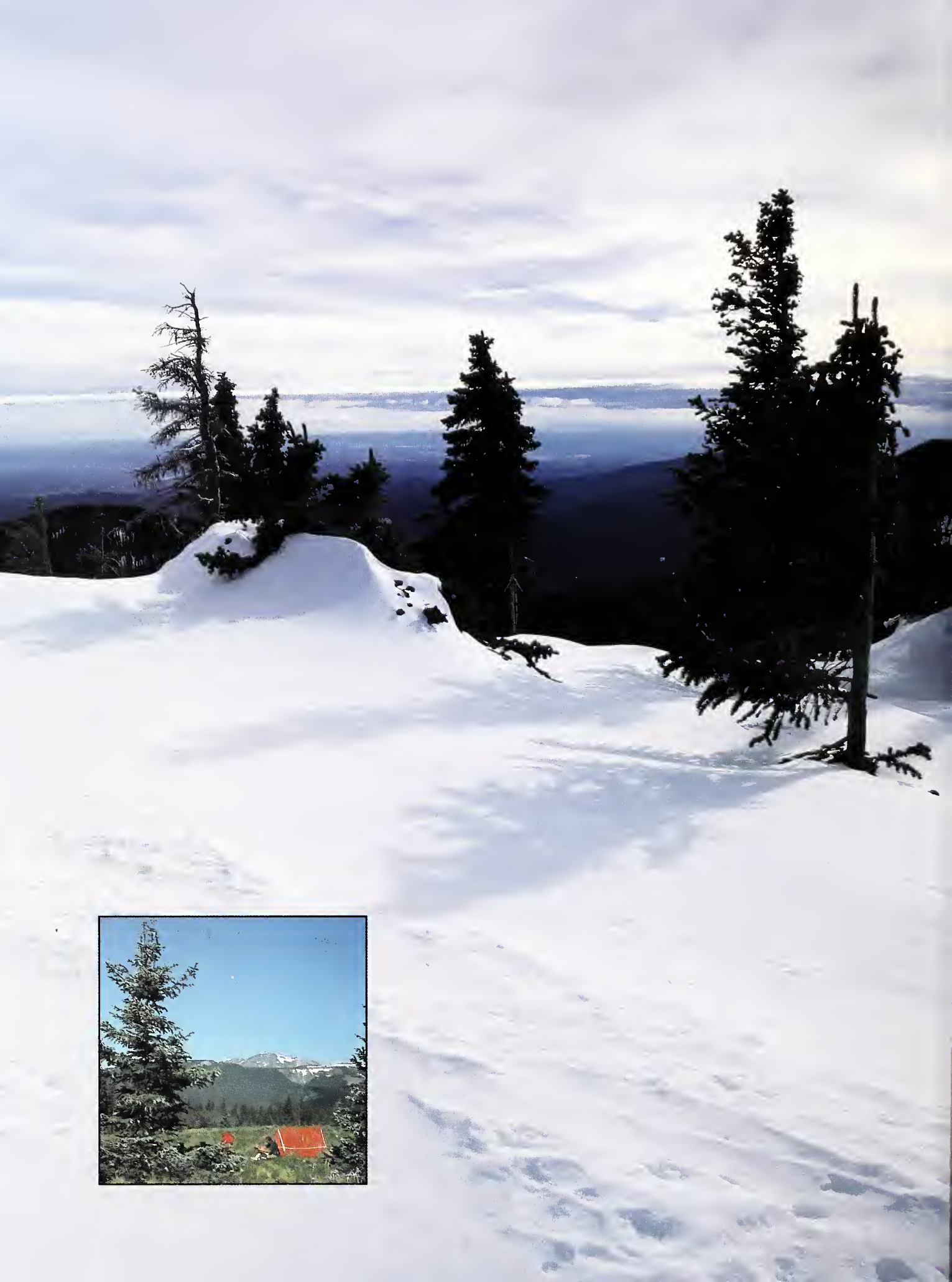
Our Vision

We actively work with communities and individuals to help them develop services and facilities which complement recreation opportunities on the national forests and grasslands. Partners and opportunities are sought to provide national forest and grassland services and facilities.

We employ a diverse, "people oriented" workforce with skills, education, and background to deliver quality service to our customers. Highly trained, equipped, and visible forest personnel and law enforcement officers insure that visitors have a safe, enjoyable and enriching recreation experience.

We are charged with stewardship of some of our Nation's most precious resources. National Forest System lands will continue to meet the growing recreational needs of New Mexico and America far into the future.







The national forests and grasslands of New Mexico offer residents and visitors many unique vistas: Sage-brush expanses that are thrust upward into volcanic peaks, multi-colored mesas and cliffs exposed after millions of years of cutting by water and wind, and autumn aspens and oaks that transform hills and mountains into dazzling tapestries. The stewardship of these natural wonders is a Forest Service tradition; a tradition that is expanding to include rich cultural resources, support for local ethnic groups, wilderness, and diverse recreational opportunities. If diversity is our challenge into the next millennia—it is our pleasure.

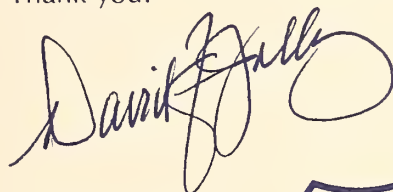


Our Commitment





- ❖ Nurturing diversity is an expanding Forest Service tradition.
- ❖ We invite you to join us in providing diverse and exciting recreational opportunities for New Mexicans and our out-of-state guests.
- ❖ Together, we will promote positive growth for New Mexico. We are committed to a future of quality recreational experiences on National Forest System lands in New Mexico. Thank you.



DAVID F. JOLLY
Regional Forester



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